

AUGUST 2023



P.E.O. monthly newsletter for Nebraska State Chapter

It's hard to believe August is here and school is just around the corner! Soon leaves will be turning, temperatures will be cooling, and P.E.O.s will be busy! Not that we haven't been busy this summer!

But, fall is the time we are looking for recipients for our projects, preparing for reciprocity meetings, and for the Northwest group official visits!

I hope your summer has been fun and full of sparkle! For us on the state board we have been busy, but we've tried to add some fun to the summer as well. Jean Matheny and I had the wonderful opportunity to go to LEAD in Des Moines last month. LEAD was a wonderful but also frantic time with the Executive Board of International Chapter. It was full of training, education, and questions and was three jammed packed days of learning and leadership.

This month's newsletter is full of ways to: Scatter love, Sparkle with Grace, and Choose to Shine!

It is full of information about Cottey, the P.E.O. Home, nominating committee and starting a new chapter in the Gretna area. The project chairs have some specific project information and a few chapter highlights we are sharing from our Facebook Page. All ways of love, grace, and shining!! And, of course, CIC!

Have you thought about what your chapter goals should be? Perhaps this might help give you some ideas! How can you incorporate those goals and ideas into "Scatter Love,

Sparkle with Grace Choose to Shine.

Did you think that the ADD 2 campaign was easy and doable, I think a lot of you did, as many of you did that and even more! How about a "Let's do it again"! Yes, we will do the "Add 2 to next year's convention"! I know you can! This is how you can Scatter Love!

Do you have 1 potential candidate for a project? I bet you do! We are so fortunate that we have chapters that continually try to find potential recipients. When you are out in your community LISTEN, a candidate is just a conversation away! This is how you can Sparkle with Grace!

Do you know a high school student? We have funds to send her to visit Cottey or perhaps send Cottey her name as a referral! Wouldn't it be great either way? This is how you can Choose to Shine!

Another way to Choose to Shine is to consider putting in your application to the Nominating Committee! Give it some thought, the committee would answer any questions you may have!!

Love,

Kellie

*leave a little
sparkle
wherever you go*



IMPORTANT DATES:

- JULY 31 DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR CIC
- AUG 15-OCT 15 STAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
- SEPT. 20-23 CIC- PITTSBURGH, PA
- AUG-NOV OFFICIAL VISITS NORTHEAST GROUP
- FALL RECIPROCITY MEETINGS

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE STATE WEBSITE! DETAILS WILL BE SHARED SOON. PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL YOUR INFORMATION IS CURRENT IN THE MEMBER UPDATE SECTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE!

NEW CHAPTER-WE ARE LOOKING FOR POTENTIAL MEMBERS FOR NEW CHAPTERS!

A LISTING OF THE CIC DELEGATES CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE: 2023 CIC PAGE

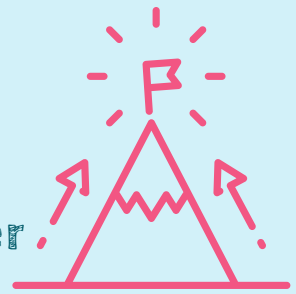
IF YOU HAVE NOT TURNED IN YOUR CIF TO JOYCE VICTOR, PLEASE DO SO RIGHT AWAY AT JOYVICTOR@OUTLOOK.COM



MEMBERSHIP

Attendance Challenge from Your Organizer

Jean Matheny



International Chapter's Attendance Challenge is a fun way for local chapters across the Sisterhood to increase attendance at a specific business or social meeting. Your chapter can choose to participate in this activity whenever it works best for you.

1. The goal of this activity is to encourage as many members as possible to attend a designated chapter meeting. The following are suggestions for implementing this activity in your chapter.

2. Set a goal. Ask the treasurer to calculate the average number of sisters who attend chapter meetings. Set an attendance goal of 5% - 10% above that number.

3. Select a date. Look at your chapter meeting schedule. Is there one meeting in December (or other designated month) at which this activity would work best? Consider changing meeting times and/or days to accommodate working members or those who attend school. If your chapter has members with young children, consider hiring a babysitter for the meeting. Brainstorm ways to accommodate those members with transportation problems. Do you have members who are residents of assisted living facilities? Consider helping them host the meeting in their clubhouse or meeting area.

4. Choose a theme. Create enthusiasm for your attendance challenge by setting a theme for the activity. Suggested ideas can be found in the Membership Activities panel of the online Local Chapter Membership Toolbox on the P.E.O. website.

5. Send invitations. To create more excitement, consider sending invitations to all members of your chapter. Don't forget to send them to your nonresident, unaffiliate and inactive* sisters, too. Ask for RSVPs.

6. Follow up. Personally call those members who don't respond. Remind them of your attendance goal and encourage everyone to make every effort to attend.

7. Take a photograph. Is it time for a new chapter photo? This might be a good opportunity to take one. If you decide to take a photograph, be sure to include this information in all pre-meeting publicity.

8. Celebrate your results. Announce your results at the next chapter meeting.

9. Plan next year's activity. Think of how much fun it is to have so many sisters together! What ideas can you generate to make next year's event even more successful?

*Reminder: members with inactive status are ineligible to attend regular or special business meetings; however, they are welcome to attend socials, chapter programs, and other activities.

You Just Never Know...

A poem written in 1895, by Mary T. Lathrap, reminds us that we shouldn't judge a person until we have walked a mile in their shoes. A sister, who always appears bubbly and bright, may be torn up on the inside. A person who may seem to be unapproachable, may just be shy. We just never know. And sometimes, even if you ask, you may not get a true response.

What we know about P.E.O. is that it exists to empower women to be the best they can be, for YOU to be the best YOU can be. It is about the comradery at our meetings and the deep bonds that are formed. It is about our socials, the community work we do in the name of P.E.O. and of course, supporting our projects with candidates, donations, sponsoring students at Cottey or residents and employees at the P.E.O. Home. It is talking about P.E.O. to friends, family and acquaintances.

It is sharing the mission: "P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans and stewardship of Cottey College; and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations." Your chapter is unique and you may focus on a different project than another chapter. That is what makes P.E.O. great. Your chapter does have a personality but we are all here for the same reason, to support and empower women, through many ways, unique to each sister, chapter, city, state, region.

P.E.O. is blessed to have you a part of this sisterhood. Feel empowered to promote your chapter; give opportunities for other women to be invited to join. Take the greatness of this organization and share it with the world.

I leave you with this P.E.O. Creed which was written by Effie Hoffman Rogers, PE.O. Chapter D, Oskaloosa, IA, P.E.O. Builder and the first editor of the P.E.O. Record, 1889. It is still relevant today!

"I BELIEVE in P.E.O. and in all that it stands for, not alone in fact, but in act.

I BELIEVE in my sisters, in the honesty of their intentions, in the purity of their motives, in the integrity of their character, and in the joy of serving others.

I BELIEVE in the virtues Faith, Love, Purity, Justice and Truth, and in the hope that lures us on.

I BELIEVE that life does not consist in the abundance of the material things we possess, but in the abundance of things we are and do.

I BELIEVE that it is within our power as P.E.O.s to help each other, that the rough places may be smooth, and the crooked places straight, the burden less heavy and life a continual joy and blessing, ever increasing, growing richer and richer.

I BELIEVE in the present of our Sisterhood with its opportunities, in the future with its obligations, in the divine joy of living here and thereafter, in the enlarged and ever enlarging sphere of usefulness that is opening up before us each year."

Your state vice president...Jane Van Horn



COTTEY COLLEGE UPDATE

Cottey College is anxiously awaiting the opening of the campus for the 2023-2024 academic year. Below is the calendar for the first semester.

Please remember that we will not receive a listing of the students until after enrollment certification. Last year that was not until sometime in October. While we realize that chapters would like to get moving on adopting a student/suite and sending goodies, please have patience. We cannot hurry this process. Watch for information in this newsletter and at your local reciprocity meetings as to when you may apply to adopt a student or suite.

A chapter may send a "Back to School" package to an entire suite, we can certainly give you the name and address of a suite that you can send it to. You won't know the names of any of the students in that suite or how many will actually be living there. You would not have to adopt this suite for the year. It could be just a one time event for the opening of school.

If your chapter would like to do this, send an email with "BACK TO SCHOOL" in the subject line and your chapter letters to peosherrye@gmail.com and we will give you an address.

AUGUST

18-21 ORIENTATION

22 CLASSES BEGIN

SEPTEMBER

4 LABOR DAY-NO
CLASSES

OCTOBER

6
MID SEMESTER BREAK-
NO CLASSES

NOVEMBER 22-24
THANKSGIVING BREAK
27

CLASSES RESUME

DECEMBER

8
LAST DAY OF CLASSES
11-14 FINAL EXAM
WEEK
14 WINTER BREAK

Thank you for your continued support of our college and its students!

Sherry Erlewine, FU
Cottey College Committee Chair



STAR SCHOLARSHIP

STAR SCHOLARSHIP TIME! CHAPTERS, IT IS TIME TO GET YOUR NOMINATIONS IN TO INTERNATIONAL FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP! THE PORTAL OPENS AUGUST 15 AND CLOSES OCTOBER 15. DO NOT PROCRASTINATE! LAST YEAR WE HAD 119 APPLICANTS, LET'S HAVE 130 APPLICANTS THIS YEAR. HERE IS THE INFORMATION FROM INTERNATIONAL... CHAPTER RECOMMENDATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS:

- WHEN A LOCAL CHAPTER IDENTIFIES A PROSPECTIVE APPLICANT, THE LOCAL STAR SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR WILL ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW TO ASSESS ELIGIBILITY. IF THE CHAPTER VOTES TO RECOMMEND THE APPLICANT, THE CHAIR OVERSEES THE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS.
- THE CHAPTER WILL ADVISE THE APPLICANT THAT SHE WILL BE EMAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOGGING INTO HER ONLINE ACCOUNT TO COMPLETE HER PORTION OF THE APPLICATION. SUBMISSION OF THE CHAPTER RECOMMENDATION FORM MUST BE MADE ONLINE, FOLLOWING THE ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS, BETWEEN AUGUST 15 AND OCTOBER 15.
- THE STUDENT PROFILE, STUDENT ACTIVITY CHARTS, ORIGINAL ONE-PAGE ESSAY, TWO REFERENCES, AND UNOFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT (THROUGH THE 11TH GRADE/JUNIOR YEAR) MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE NO LATER THAN 30 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE APPLICANT HAS RECEIVED A LINK WITH LOGIN INFORMATION. CANADIAN APPLICANTS MUST ALSO INCLUDE THEIR PROVINCE CONVERSION GRADING SCALE.

CRYSTAL KLEIN, STAR CHAIR CRYSKLEIN@GMAIL.COM



P.E.O. Scholar Award

P.E.O. Scholar Awards monthly report—July, 2023



Do you know an exceptional scholar who is currently within two years of completing her Ph.D or doctoral-level professional degree? 100 such scholars from the U.S. and Canada will be honored with a \$20,000 P.E.O. Scholar Award in May 2024 for the 2024-2025 academic year!

The P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA) are based on merit and were designed to recognize and encourage academic excellence and achievement by providing partial support for doctoral level study and research. Online chapter nominations of exceptional scholars must be submitted between August 20, 2023, and November 20, 2023, so NOW is the time to identify and interview potential candidates for these prestigious and highly competitive awards!

As you are preparing to speak with potential candidates for a PSA, you will find a wealth of practical resources on the P.E.O. International website to guide you. For special inspiration, please consult the September/October 2022 P.E.O. Record and celebrate again Sarah Anne Kruger, who was nominated by Chapter CC, Seward, NE and was selected as one of the 16 Named P.E.O. Scholar Award recipients for the 2022-2023 academic year. I was also delighted to learn at state convention last month that Emily Kuhlmann, nominated by Chapter AI, Lincoln, was selected as one of the 100 Endowed P.E.O. Scholar Award recipients for the 2023-2024 academic year. Congratulations to all of the Nebraska chapters who have nominated outstanding scholars in the past, and a special appeal to each Nebraska chapter to seek exemplary candidates for the Scholar Awards this fall.

As the new P.E.O. Scholar Awards state chairman, I am happy to answer any questions you may have about the PSA policies and procedures, interviewing process, chapter letter of recommendation, and other concerns that arise as your chapter takes steps to identify, interview, and recommend exceptional candidates for the 2024-2025 P.E.O. Scholar Awards. Let's help these bright young women shine!

Laura Marvel-Wunderlich, HT
P.E.O. Scholar Awards state chair
lmarvel@hastings.edu 719-207-3198

HELP Wanted

Are you interested in helping start a new chapter? Do you have an idea for a new location for a new chapter? Your help is requested!

We are looking for sisters to help start a chapter in Gretna, other areas as well! Please contact:

New Chapter Coordinator
Peggy Brendel-
pegbpeo@gmail.com

or the State Organizer Jean
Matheny-
jean.peo.nebraska@gmail.com

Nebraska State Pin



order for your chapter or
yourself now!

reminders

- Please forward this newsletter to all your members
- Please send your chapter pin orders to Kellie Stang-Order deadline is Feb. 15, 2024
- Are you on the Nebraska state Facebook page? Search for Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. and ask to be added to the page. Post things your chapter is doing!
- Look for P.E.O. International on Facebook, Instagram, and other social media sites
- Send you CIFs to Joyce Victor, if you have questions contact a state board member
- Need ideas or help-check out the state website for your chapter



Join our board!



SEEKING NEBRASKA SISTERS

A Few Leadership Qualities

Supportive Inspirational Creative
Honest Highly Committed Critical Thinker
Passionate Reflective/Decisive Problem Solver
Learner LOVE P.E.O. Involvement Able-bodied

You likely know a Nebraska P.E.O. sister who would be a fabulous addition to the Nebraska State Executive Board. Have you talked with her, encouraged her, and asked if she might be interested? Do not wait another minute—talk with her TODAY! The incoming Nebraska State Executive Board Secretary will be installed at the 2024 Nebraska State Convention.

PROCESS FOR FALL 2023:

- Complete a "Willingness to Serve" form found in the 2023 convention delegate packet or on the Nebraska P.E.O. website: nebraskapeo.org Be sure the "Willingness" form gets to Jane Van Horn, VP, so the process can begin.
- Contact Lisa ASAP indicating your interest and she will send application materials to you.
- Complete an inventory of skills, experience, etc., the chapter letter of support, and submit all to Lisa Helmick by no later than being postmarked Wednesday, November 1, 2023.
- Interviews will take place, likely via Zoom, in mid-November, if possible.
- Decision made and applicants notified by no later than February 29th, 2024 - leap year this year.

For more information about the process, and request materials, please contact:

Lisa Helmick, Chair of the State Nominating Committee

6712 North 65th Avenue

Omaha, NE 68152-2110

Cell: 402-669-4186

EMAIL: Lisapeo@cox.net (Preferred method of contact)





August 2023

Email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com
<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

NEW RESIDENT: We lovingly welcome Phyllis Lovell, Chapter Z, Beatrice and her bichon frise', Sam, as residents at our Home. Phyllis is a 60-year member of P.E.O. having been initiated into Chapter BS, Omaha, in March of 1963. Sam is a 14-year old who has been a loving BIL his entire life.

Happy 100th Birthday to Resident Maxine Arneal on Tuesday, July 18th. Chapter FM, Beatrice, surprised Maxine with a "Garden Party" birthday for her at our Home. ALL resident birthdays are listed on the P.E.O. Home website: <https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>



ADOPT-a-RESIDENT and ADOPT-an-EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS: July 1, 2023, the new "Adopt" year began. There were Adopt Forms in delegate packets at the Nebraska state convention in June.

REMEMBER: You must complete new adopt forms each year. You may request the same resident or employee, but it is not a guarantee you will have the same person.

CONTINUED DONATION NEEDS:

We are asking for monetary donations to purchase new dining room tables and chairs. We are sure you understand the wear and tear they take with bumps from walkers, wheelchairs, serving and clean-up carts, etc. These tables and chairs have not been replaced for many years. Thank you for considering this as a needed monetary gift for a specific purpose.

THANK YOU for helping to supply our residents with note cards, cards for specific holidays, and stamps. We do have an area where we house cards for them to use and send to family and friends. NO Christmas cards are needed, for their use, but we need "other holiday" cards: Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's and Father's Day, Halloween, and Thanksgiving Day. Donations of postage stamps are also very welcome for this purpose.

MEMORIAL and HONORARY BRICKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: You may now order memorial or honorary bricks (in tan or red) which will be “built” into a display wall on our Home grounds. The order information and form are on the Nebraska P.E.O. Home website:

<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>



The link to learn more and order is on the home page of the website. Yes, costs for such items has increased, in recent years, but we do want to offer this kind of honorarium or memorial for our former and current residents, a P.E.O. sister who is honored in your chapter, or for you and your legacy P.E.O.s, staff members, BILs, etc.

A wall is planned near the parking lot to display these bricks. Costs, for such a project, has increased because of the laying of the bricks in the wall, maintenance of the bricks - which is perpetual, and to repair if there happens to be any damaged. The cost for a 4” x 8” brick is \$150 in your choice of red or tan with up to 20 characters for names/words/dates - spaces between DO count. IF you would like to choose a brick with one of four logos (two are star-related; two are daisy-related) you will be allowed 15 spaces for names/words/dates and the cost is \$160 when clip art is used.

We do hope you will consider this lovely memorial or honorary gift to enhance the history of our beloved Nebraska P.E.O. Home grounds. If you have questions, please do email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

OUTSIDE WORK: Nic has been SUPER BUSY working on the grounds outside our Home. He does have some help in that a neighbor, Greg, loves to work in flower beds, pulling weeds, etc. What a great help Greg has already been for Nic. Please coordinate any donations of work time by volunteering on our Home website, the “CONTACT” page: www.nebraskapeohome.org

TOURS of OUR HOME:

Small group tours are offered again at our Home. Groups of no more than five, are now able to see our Home. Tours are guided by Home staff or board directors as needed. If a larger group wants to tour, they will be divided into groups with no more than two groups touring at the same time. Contact Shari Little, Administrator to set up a date and time.

EMAIL SHARI LITTLE: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

HEARTFELT THANKS: YOU make a difference in quality of life for our residents AND you build the morale of our staff members. Thank you for your continued investment in the lives of residents and staff and for the continued maintenance of our very special Home! Thank you for loving our Home as much as we do!

Your love built our Home, and your love maintains it.



WE are Headed to Pittsburgh!

We have a delegation of 57 women and 3 BILs headed to Pittsburgh! We are so excited and looking forward to a fun, informative, and educational time! We are anxiously awaiting our final details. The large majority of us will be leaving Wed. Sept. 20 and headed east. A few are scheduled to see the Frank Lloyd Wright icon Falling Water.

A few have other tours scheduled, but most importantly we will be serving as delegates to International Convention! We will be looking sharp with our Nebraska scarves that the executive board showcased at convention! The scarves were designed by Tammy Hensley, Chapter FX, Lincoln! She hit it "out of the park" by her design, and we can't wait to show them off! Make sure your delegate shows you her scarf. Thank you, Tammy, for all your work in designing and making them for us!

You will be able to "hear all about it" after convention! The CIC report will be prepared and posted on the website. You will be notified via Constant Contact when it is available.



INFORMATION ABOUT CONVENTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER AND THE RULES FOR DELEGATES.

On the 2023 Convention of International Chapter page of the website, you will see a list of the delegates, along with their emails, that were elected at state convention. Below their names are listed the chapters they are representing as determined by the Chapter Delegates Groupings published each year in the convention proceedings. Many chapters have asked who their delegate is, so that their feelings/opinions concerning the proposed amendments to be presented at CIC could be shared with the delegate representing their chapter.

Your chapter or any chapter member may reach out to your elected delegate, any PSP or state executive board member on the list to have your voice be heard. We welcome your input. That being said, the delegate is in no way obligated to vote a certain way because she is asked to. Nor she will not divulge how she voted, because the ballot is to be a secret one. Each delegate, after listening to the debate on the floor of convention and taking into consideration all that she has heard, will vote as she sees fit and believes to be in the best interest of the Sisterhood. Please be respectful when contacting a delegate. Her duty to those she represents, Nebraska State Chapter and to the P.E.O. Sisterhood as a whole is to vote in a way that she believes will be for the betterment and success of our beloved organization.

Please if you have any other questions or concerns that is beyond the scope of being a delegate, please contact a member of the state executive board.



How is your chapter Scattering Love. Sparkling with Grace and Choosing to Shine?

Here's a few chapters we found.
Keep posting!

